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fornia condors, *Gymnogyps californianus* (Shaw), one just shedding the last of its natal down while the other, at the age of three years, has just acquired the fully adult head colors and gular swelling; black cockatoo, *Calyptorhynchus banksi* (Lath); satin bower bird, *Ptilonorhynchus violaceus* (Vieill); and sacred ibis, *Ibis æthiopica* (Lath). A pair of ocellated turkeys, *Agriocharis ocellata* (Curv.), just acquiring adult plumage and coloring is perhaps the rarest species in the entire collection.

The series of American warblers is as complete as ever, and an excellent beginning has been made on the birds of our western deserts, as the following list will show: phainopepla, ptilogonys, white-rumped shrike, western blue grosbeak, pyrrhuloxia, house finch, western lark sparrow, lark bunting, gambel sparrow, western vesper sparrow, Abert desert towhee, dickcissel, dwarf, and red-eyed cowbirds, Sonoran redwing, Texas meadowlark, great-tailed grackle, Rio Grande green jay, besides many larger forms such as scaled quail, roadrunner, etc.

C. WILLIAM BEEBE,
Curator of Ornithology

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE 1:1,000,000 MAP OF THE WORLD

At the Fifth International Geographical Congress at Bern, in 1891, Professor Albrecht Penck first proposed that the enlightened nations who were engaged in making maps of their own territories and of other countries should unite upon a common plan for the execution of a general map of the world. He suggested that the scale of the map should be 1:1,000,000, or about 16 miles to the inch, and that the separate sheets of the map should be so bounded by meridians and parallels that any one sheet would match any other except for distortion of projection, no matter by what country either sheet might be made. This proposal led to resolutions and discussions at successive geographic congresses and to several tentative maps made by Germany, France, England and the United States as essays toward the general plan.

At the ninth congress at Geneva in July,

1908, a resolution was presented by Mr. Henry Gannett, of the U. S. Geological Survey, with a view to the formation of an international committee to which should be entrusted the details of arrangement which should lead to more definite cooperation in the preparation of the world map. Following the adoption of that resolution and the recommendations of the committee at Geneva, the British government has recently sent out invitations to Austria-Hungary, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, Spain and the United States, for a meeting of the committee in London on November 16, to proceed with the standardization of the international map on the scale of 1:1,000,000. The British delegates will consist of representatives of Great Britain, Canada, Australia and India. At this conference the various details essential to an agreement on the preparation of a uniform map will be discussed and it is hoped adjusted.

The United States Geological Survey has for some time past been engaged in compiling maps of portions of the United States on the 1:1,000,000 scale and in accordance with a plan which is believed to embody the principal features on which agreement with other nations is expected.

In view of the interest which it thus has in the results of this conference, Messrs. Bailey Willis and S. J. Kubel, of the U. S. Geological Survey, have been instructed to proceed to London as representatives of the United States.

MR. KENNEDY'S BEQUESTS

By the will of John Stewart Kennedy, the banker of New York City, who died on October 31, in his eightieth year, bequests are made for public purposes amounting to nearly \$30,000,000. Seven of the bequests are of \$2,225,000 each, and are, respectively, for Columbia University, the New York Public Library, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, and to three of the boards of the Presbyterian Church. Bequests of \$1,500,000 are made to Robert College, Constantinople, and to the United Charities of New York. Bequests of \$750,000